

AGENDA ITEM: Statewide Information Databases**GENERAL OVERALL PROGRAM UPDATES:****CURRENT STATUS:**Cooperative Licensing Services

Additional announcements have been mailed to all members alerting them to opportunities available from Amigos Library Services for LoC members. Amigos was present at the California Library Association conference to explain their services and answer questions from California librarians. Amigos was also present at the October 4th Vendor Day exhibit sponsored by the Tierra del Sol Library Network. Staff met with Robert Watkins of Amigos on October 10th in Sacramento to discuss plans for additional cooperative licensing opportunities and to coordinate communications with members. On October 11th Robert Watkins presented information on Amigos' services to the Arroyo Seco Library Network Board.

Additional services to be delivered to LoC members by Amigos include a web-based portal to a variety of information about cooperative licensing opportunities. Information on new products, free trials available for libraries and a single listing of all products will be maintained by Amigos. An email broadcast list will be established that will allow librarians to subscribe and receive updated information about cooperative licensing activities and opportunities.

Staff furnished Amigos with an updated database of LoC members and participating libraries to enhance marketing of their services and as a tool for surveys and analysis. A survey will be made of LoC members to ascertain the most appropriate databases for Amigos to pursue for cooperative licensing opportunities.

Amigos staff will be in communication with contacts from the California State University System Systemwide Electronic Information Resources (CSU-SEIR), the Community College League of California, the Statewide Electronic Library Consortium (SCELC), the California Department of Education's C-Smart program and the University of California's California Digital Library to keep these institutions involved in cooperative licensing informed of Amigos' efforts on behalf of the Library of California.

Librarians' Index to the Internet (lii.org)

Staff met with Karen Schneider, the new coordinator of lii.org, on October 16th to discuss the first quarter's operations as well as key issues and opportunities. Usage statistics (total requests to the server) have jumped 47% over the previous year period. The database has grown by 23% since last year. The coordinator assumed duties

October 1st and has been working diligently to understand the current operations of the program and has made many contacts within the state concerning lii.org.

lii.org staff responded quickly to the September 11th events. A special topics page “Attack & Aftermath,” is linked from the main page. Editors and indexers alike identified and entered key sites into the lii.org database, and a special mailing to lii.org subscribers went out on the Monday following the attacks. Indexers continue to submit useful sites.

The Arroyo Seco Library Network is one of the most recent additions (<http://lii.org/asln>) to the co-branding service offered by lii.org.

Library of California Periodicals/Serials Database

New libraries have been added by the serials service bureau to the database. A printed and bound Tierra del Sol Union List of Periodicals is being offered to their members. A Library Services and Technology Act project is underway to study the union serials database process for California and to recommend appropriate courses of action. The new CDL platform continues to evolve; issues related to the periodicals display are being discussed with CDL staff on an on-going basis.

Full Text Periodical Cooperative Licensing Pilot

The Arroyo Seco Library Network Board at their October 11th meeting reviewed the results from this project consisting of an offer from Gale Group for a choice of full text periodical products at a percentage discount price. A final written offer was in progress at the time of this report. General indications were that the offer would be a discount from established pricing for existing customers and an extended discount for new customers. Initial comments from the vendor, Gale Group, indicated that this discount could be extended to other LoC members.

The final agreement did not utilize an aggregated billing approach to obtaining discounts on subscriptions. Comments from ASLN full text periodical committee members indicated that the complexity of managing such a large number of libraries and such a mix of products and pricing was of concern and moved the decision to a simpler percentage discount approach.

Amigos Library Services will discuss the agreement with Gale Group to expedite an offer to other LoC members if appropriate.

Relevant Committee: Support Services
Staff Liaison: Ira Bray